

Registry  
62-276574

19 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

SUBJECT : Hospitalization for Cubans

1. I have several times orally authorized the expenditure of the \$50,000 to take care of the immediate hospitalization needs of the wounded Cubans. This should be done now, without any, repeat any, commitment as to the extent beyond this to which we are prepared to go for these individuals and without any commitment of any kind as to what we intend to do about the remaining prisoners of war at such time as they are released.

2. There are too many unanswered questions and, as far as I can make out, too little planning as to where we are now and where we are headed on this problem. I will admit some legal obligation only when I have seen the written agreement made with the [ ] or with the individuals concerned. I will admit more of a moral obligation for a limited period of time. The Agency must sit down now and prepare a complete and comprehensive and all-encompassing staff study as to where we are headed in the future in connection with the entire group of Cubans who were involved in the operation. Our objective should be to get out from under just as fast as we possibly can, but at the same time living up to any legal obligations we might have and taking due consideration of moral obligations. It still appears that a lump-sum settlement to the [ ] and through the [ ] to the individuals, is the best solution for the Agency. I am, however, prepared to give way on this providing a comprehensive program is developed for all possible types of individuals and their dependents.

3. For example, I will want answers to the following:

a. How long do we intend to continue providing medical care for these wounded?

b. After the doctors have done all they can, what commitments still exist or what do we do next?

OGC Has Reviewed

SECRET

- 2 -

c. What have we done for those individuals who were in the operation but escaped unscathed?

d. What are we doing for the dependents of those that were killed in the operation, and how long does this last?

e. What are we doing for the dependents of those still in prison?

f. What do we do with those who escape or are subsequently released from prison?

4. As you can see, there are many many more questions in addition to the foregoing which need answering in order to determine the position of the U. S. Government as well as the Agency in this regard. It must also be borne in mind that what we do in this case can be determining as to what we may be able to accomplish in the future. I am also aware of the political pressures that exist on the entire Cuban situation.

5. As I have said above, you may commit the \$50,000 presently required for the medical care, on a short-term basis, of the wounded presently under medical care. This should be done without inferring or implying anything beyond the payment for medical care of these particular individuals. Before making any other commitments in this regard, let me see a complete plan which will satisfy all of the concerns I have mentioned above.

*15/ M SC*

Marshall S. Carter  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Deputy Director

MSC:blp

Distribution:

Original & 1 - Addressee (via Executive Director)

1 - DDCI

1 - ER

SECRET